



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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GAIL FARBER, Director

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

May 18, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
TO SOLICIT BIDS
TO REPLACE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action authorizes the Director of Public Works to approve the solicitation for bids to purchase 11 maintenance equipment items. The cost of the acquisition is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Internal Service Fund Fixed Asset Equipment appropriation.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to solicit bids to purchase the replacement of the following 11 maintenance equipment items. The cost of the acquisition is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Internal Service Fund Fixed Asset Equipment appropriation:

- Two Trucks; Water; 4x4; 3,000-3,500 Gallon
- Loader, Wheel, 2-yard
- Loader, Track, 1 1/4-yard
- Motor Grader, Tandem
- Truck, Striping Paint Machine, Thermoplastic
- Truck, Dump, Grade II, with Blade and Sander
- Motor Grader, Tandem, with 14-foot Blade, Scarifier
- Two Loader/Backhoe with Breaker
- Chip Spreader

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to comply with the County of Los Angeles Equipment Policy (Policy) that your Board adopted on October 16, 2001. The Policy requires your Board's approval prior to County departments purchasing equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater.

Your Board's approval of the recommended items is necessary to solicit bids and to purchase the equipment from which the Department of Public Works (Public Works) will support its operational needs. This equipment is essential to support the maintenance and repairs of roads, channels, and debris basins including sewer maintenance emergency call-out requests.

Nine of eleven pieces of equipment need to be replaced because they have met or exceeded the minimum replacement criteria. The maintenance and repair costs to reach acceptable equipment reliability levels are far too expensive and/or the availability of spare parts is not reliable because of age of the equipment. Therefore, this equipment is no longer cost-effective to maintain and must be replaced to ensure sustainable operational capabilities to meet Public Works' core functions.

The other two items are pieces of equipment, one Water truck and one Chip Spreader, that will enable efficient and effective operations across the County's vast territory.

The 3,000 gallon Water Truck will be used to comply with SCAQMD Rule 403 Fugitive Dust Suppression that impacts our operations, such as debris basin and inlet cleanouts, grading of sediment placement sites, ripping spreading grounds, and other work where there is dust control concerns. The Chip Spreader will facilitate the efficient and cost-effective chip sealing method of preserving asphalt pavement roads, thereby, extending the life of the pavement on these roads.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), and Public Safety (Goal 5).

This action will enable Public Works to continue to provide County residents with enhanced, responsive, and efficient maintenance services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The cost for this acquisition is estimated to be \$3,869,000. Financing is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Internal Service Fund Fixed Asset Equipment appropriation.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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On October 16, 2001, your Board adopted a Policy whereby departments must obtain Board approval to purchase equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater prior to submitting their requisitions for purchasing. Enclosed is a list of the item numbers, descriptions, financial information, and justifications for each maintenance equipment item that requires authorization to solicit bids for replacements.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

In accordance with Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, approval of the recommended action does not constitute a project and, hence, is not subject to the requirements of CEQA.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The approval of this request will enable Public Works to continue to perform its routine activities in a more efficient manner. Your Board's approval will allow Public Works to replace outdated maintenance equipment and continue to provide services to County residents.

CONCLUSION

Please return three adopted copies of this letter to Public Works, Fleet Management.

Respectfully submitted,



GAIL FARBER
Director

GF:PJM:be

Enclosures

c: c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)
County Counsel
Executive Office

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
FISCAL YEAR 2009-10 EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AT \$250,000 AND ABOVE

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT	JUSTIFICATION
536A	Truck, Water, 4x4 3,000 Gallon	\$358,000	This replacement item is a key piece of equipment used on a majority of our construction and maintenance projects such as debris basin and inlet cleanouts, grading of sediment placement sites, ripping spreading grounds, mowing facilities, and other work where there are dust-control concerns. The water trucks requested would be equipped with 4x4 chassis and water cannon. The four-wheel drive is essential for Flood Maintenance's debris basins and spreading grounds operations. The water cannon will be used as a means of fire suppression and to comply with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 403 (Fugitive Dust Control).
539R	Loader, Wheel 2-yard	\$292,000	Our current rubber tire loader is assigned to Flood Maintenance Division and is shared by two subyards in the South Area. The loader plays a major role in supporting the South Area's emergency storm operations, debris basin cleanouts, and cleaning channel inverters to help eradicate the West Nile Virus.
542R	Loader, Track 1 1/4-yard	\$275,000	This replacement item is used in our maintenance operations to remove material, brush, and sediment from Debris Retention Inlets (DRIs). It is also used in sediment placement sites' operations. Having a loader with these capabilities helps us provide a quick response during emergencies since it can be transported using our own equipment.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
FISCAL YEAR 2009-10 EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AT \$250,000 AND ABOVE

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT	JUSTIFICATION
544R	Motor Grader, Tandem	\$429,000	This replacement item is used for scraping the concrete channels to control the midge and mosquito population breeding in the algae, thus minimizing the threat of spreading the West Nile Virus. Also, it is used to grade access roads, basin bottoms, and soft-bottom channels for proper drainage.
546R	Truck, Water, 4x4 3,500 Gallon	\$358,000	This replacement item is a key piece of equipment used on a majority of our construction and maintenance projects such as debris basin and inlet cleanouts, grading of sediment placement sites, ripping spreading grounds, mowing facilities, and other work where there are dust-control concerns. The item requested would be equipped with 4x4 chassis and water cannon. The four wheel drive is essential for Flood Maintenance's debris basins and spreading grounds operations. The water cannon will be used as a means of fire suppression and to comply with South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 403 (Fugitive Dust Control).
579R	Truck, Striping Paint Machine, Thermoplastic	\$572,000	This replacement item is used for applying traffic line marking stripes. We are responsible to properly maintain the striping on all County roads, within unincorporated County areas, and numerous cities contract with us to perform this work within their cities. The proper maintenance of striping is essential for public safety and to minimize County liability. Its reliability is below acceptable levels and is frequently inoperable due to repair needs.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
FISCAL YEAR 2009-10 EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AT \$250,000 AND ABOVE

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT	JUSTIFICATION
606R	Truck, Dump Grade II, with Blade and Sander	\$297,000	This replacement item is equipped with a removable snow plow and a slip in sander. The unit will be used year-round for road maintenance. The truck will perform standard dump truck duties such as hauling materials and debris. During the storm season, the unit will utilize the snow plow and the v-box sander unit to clear the roads of snow and debris. The sander will be employed to control ice and improve traction on the roadways for the traveling public.
610R	Motor Grader, Tandem, 14-foot Blade, Scarifier	\$374,000	This replacement item will provide the means for the ongoing maintenance of road shoulders and unpaved roadways within the County. It will eliminate the ever-increasing maintenance costs attributable to the unit it is replacing. The work also aids in maintaining Fire Department and Emergency Services access for the residents.
612/613R	(2) Loader/Backhoe with Breaker	\$292,000 (each)	They lift and load debris into dump trucks and clear debris in and around the road ways. The two requested loader/backhoes with concrete breakers are capable of similar duties. In addition, they are capable of breaking through concrete, drilling, trenching, and excavating. The multitask ability and high production rate of the loader backhoes with breakers is needed to efficiently perform road maintenance duties.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
FISCAL YEAR 2009-10 EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AT \$250,000 AND ABOVE

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT	JUSTIFICATION
26A	Chip Spreader	\$330,000	Chip sealing prevents further deterioration of the roadways and prevents the destruction and potholing caused by the natural breakdown of asphalt pavements. Road Maintenance Division anticipates a significant increase in chip sealing work throughout the County. Chip spreaders apply rock chips to road surface sealants to improve road surfaces. The chip seal process is widely used, and very few chip spreaders are available for rent.